

**ROCKLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ROCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING,  
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010, 6:30 PM  
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

The School Committee met on Monday, May 10, 2010, at 6:30 PM at the High School Library. Committee members present were: Mrs. Pezzella, Mr. Mills, Mr. Mullen, and Mrs. Werkheiser. Also present were Superintendent Retchless, Assistant Superintendent Scarpelli, Mrs. Cusick, and Amanda Foley, Student Representative.

Present in the audience were: Mr. Sangster, High School Principal; Ms. Bohn, Middle School Assistant Principal; Mrs. Forlizzi, Math Elementary/Middle School Math Liaison; and citizens broadcasting for WRPS/TV.

Mrs. Pezzella announced that Mr. Norris was not in attendance due a business commitment.

Mrs. Pezzella welcomed Ms. Foley, Student Representative, to the Committee.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the Public Hearing on School Choice for the 2010-2011 School Year was opened.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted not to participate in School Choice for the 2010-2011 School Year. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the hearing was closed.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the minutes of the meeting of April 26, 2010 were accepted.

The minutes of the South Shore Regional School District Committee meeting for March 17, 2010 were noted.

A request from Campfire USA to distribute flyers to the elementary and middle school students was approved on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

The Superintendent announced that the Rockland Day Care celebrated its 20th year anniversary last week. Superintendent Retchless commended Mrs. Veiga for her efforts on behalf of this project. There was a discussion regarding the new Anti-Bullying Law that has just been signed by the governor. The Rockland Public Schools policy is very strong but it will be reviewed again in the fall. The Superintendent commended Ken Dunn for the preparation work for the relocation of the pre-school, Kindergarten, and Superintendent's office. The discussion also included the busing impact on the Middle School and changing start and end times of the elementary schools.

On four motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the following April Monthly Reports were approved:

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|----|--------------------------|---|
| 1) | Administrators           | Mr. Sangster, Mr. Stanish, Mrs. McGrath,<br>Mr. Kohn/Dr. Levine, Mrs. Sheehan |
| 2) | Guidance                 | Mrs. Shaw   |
| 3) | Nurse                    | Mrs. Ryan   |
| 4) | Pupil Personnel Services | Ms. Salem   |

On five separate motions by Mr. Mills, seconds by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the following Security Trailer Reports for April were accepted:

- 1) Almshouse
- 2) Esten
- 3) Hartsuff Park
- 4) Jefferson
- 5) Memorial Park

The following May Newsletters were noted:

- 1) Esten
- 2) Jefferson
- 3) Memorial Park
- 4) Middle School

Building Rentals for April were noted.

Mrs. Werkheiser reported that the School Building Committee has held two construction meetings and that the foundation of the new Middle School will be started in August. The MSBA will conduct a survey on the inventory of the three elementary schools and the architects will present new pictures of the exterior of the school at the next meeting.

Mrs. Forlizzi, Math Coordinator, reviewed the proposed Elementary Mathematics Textbook/Program, *EnVision Math Program*, Scott Foresman, Addison Wesley. Mrs. Forlizzi outlined the step taken to make the recommendation which included the following: review of sample program materials, formation of volunteer math committee, presentation by company representatives, site visits to schools using the proposed program. After a general discussion, it was voted to table the vote until the next meeting. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous. Superintendent Retchless commended Mrs. Forlizzi and the elementary teachers for their commitment to this project.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve an out-of-state field trip for the Middle School Grade 7 students to Canobie Lake Park, Salem, NH. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Werkheiser, unanimous.

After a general discussion, it was voted to approve June 16, 2010 as the last day of school for the 2009-2010 School Year on the recommendation of the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mrs. Werkheiser, unanimous. On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve June 11, 2010 as the last day of school for the 2009-2010 School Year for Kindergarten. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, it was voted to approve the proposed Underclassmen Final Exam Schedule. Motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to table the vote on the proposed 2010-2011 Middle School Program of Studies.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to table the vote on the proposed 2010-2011 Middle School Handbook.

Assistant Principal Bohn introduced Mrs. Tanner, PAC Chairman, who gave the Committee an overview of the activities of the PAC including sponsoring agenda books, school store, craft fair, Shamrock Classic book fair and entertainment books. Mrs. Tanner thanked Mr. Duarte for his help with the box tops for education project and Mr. Stanish and Ms. Bohn for their continued support.

Mr. Sangster reviewed the activities of the High School Academic Boosters which included: The Excellence Breakfast, the Math Team, Boys & Girls State, the "I Dare You Awards" and Art All-State. Mr. Sangster also gave an overview of the activities of the School Council including: continuing the NEASC process, supporting Professional Development opportunities, continuing the integration of technology in the classroom, supporting the middle school building project and communicating with constituents on the movement of programs and personnel during the high school renovation. On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to approve the School Improvement Plan for the 2010-2011 School Year which includes: Mission & Expectations now the Core Values, Beliefs and Learning Expectations, Professional Development in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning, Technology, Facilities, and Renovation.

On the motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, it was voted to support the North River Collaborative's application for the Massachusetts 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers High School Innovation Grant on behalf of the Rockland Public Schools.

It was announced that MCAS testing will begin at the high school shortly, the National Honor Society induction will be held this week, and the Junior Prom will be held on Friday. The Special Education PAC toll booth will be held this weekend. The Superintendent announced that the students who were in the automobile accident last week are still recovering and that the school district is thinking of the them and wishing them well.

On motion by Mr. Mills, seconded by Mr. Mullen, unanimous, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas F. Mills, Jr.  
Secretary